

PME RESEARCH LABORATORY, JULY 1980

PROJECT TITLE : AGRICULTURAL CHEMICALS
PERIOD COVERED : JULY 1980
WRITTEN BY : M. SPECK

ROUTINE ANALYSES

Number of tobacco samples analyzed for pesticide residues in July:

Organochlorines	69
Organophosphorus	69
Organophosphorus + Methamidophos	7
Dithiocarbamate	43
Maleic Hydrazide	7
Ridomil	2

MH-30

Increasing amounts of residual MH-30 are found on American flue-cured leaf tobacco. MH-30 residue levels in 45 leaf samples analyzed in 1979 were sometimes double or triple the amount of 80 ppm recommended by the German Government (Table 1).

Table 1 MH-30 residue levels (ppm) in American flue-cured leaf samples analyzed in 1979

Range (ppm)	0-79.9	80.0-149.9	150.0-199.9	>200
Number of samples	9	27	6	3

To be on the safe side, MLK and MLF produced in Berlin and Munich from December 1979 until February 1980 were analyzed for MH-30. The MH-30 residue levels range from 30 to 49 ppm (1). In consequence of the high amounts of MH-30 found in finished products and in accordance with Leaf Department/Lausanne, the following PM brands will be checked monthly for MH-30: PMI (Munich), MLF (Serrières), MLF (Holland), MLF (Austria), MLK (London), MLB (Weltab), MLB (Eindhoven) (2).

NEW ANALYTICAL METHODS

The method presently used for MH-30 analysis is time-wasting and dangerous. Due to the increasing number of MH-30 determinations expected and for safety reasons, investigations have been started to develop a new and simple method for analyzing maleic hydrazide. Efforts are concentrated on derivatisation reactions and quantitation by gas chromatography.

REFERENCES

- (1) Memo of W. Fink to P. Karle, July 24, 1980.
- (2) Memo of F. Moser to P. Karle, July 9, 1980.

M. Speck

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